

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A real-time inventory status and information system comprising:
 - a database, for storing on-hand, reserved, and ordered inventory information;
 - a communication interface, for providing access to said database, said interface communicating between a server and said database;
 - a server, for providing real-time access to system accessible data, ~~and for performing business logic on such data~~; and,
 - a client, for providing a user interface to the system.
2. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said server is comprised of a web server.
3. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said client is comprised of a web browser.
4. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, further comprising a means of wireless communications between a client and a server.
5. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said client is comprised of a combination of a web browser and custom software for real-time inventory display.
6. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said client is comprised of a combination of a web browser and custom software for real-time inventory monitoring.
7. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said client is comprised of a combination of a web browser and custom software for real-time inventory control.
8. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said client is comprised of a combination of a web browser and custom software for real-time inventory display, monitoring, and control.
9. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said client includes a device capable of reading container labels.
10. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in

which said client includes a barcode scanner.

11. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information system of Claim 1, in which said client periodically receives or requests inventory updates from said server.

12. (Previously Amended) A method of real-time inventory status and information dissemination, comprising the steps of:

recording orders and order properties, including quantities ordered, date ordered, anticipated delivery time, and anticipated delivery date in an inventory database;

recording any new or returned inventory arrivals, and incrementing corresponding on-hand inventory entries;

receiving purchase requests and placing corresponding inventory on reserve;

calculating inventory quantities available for delivery as a difference between quantity on-hand and quantity on reserve.

decrementing both reserve and inventory totals upon shipment; and

providing user-appropriate inventory information when requested.

13. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information dissemination method of Claim 12, in which said new inventory orders are entered through an accounting system.

14. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information dissemination method of Claim 13, wherein said accounting system automatically updates an inventory database.

15. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information dissemination method of Claim 12, in which electronically readable codes corresponding to inventory items are read by a client as items are received or shipped.

16. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information dissemination method of Claim 15, in which said electronically readable codes are Universal Product Code (UPC) codes.

17. (Previously Amended) The real-time inventory status and information dissemination method of Claim 12, in which said user-appropriate inventory information is displayed on a client.